O Y C O O S - 2 3 - 0 1

Docket No.: 1454.1059-C

#?/A
8-17-01
GM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Wolfgang STRIPF et al.

Serial No. 09/843,686   Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Confirmation No.

Filed: April 30, 2001   Examiner: To be assigned

For: PROGRAMMABLE CONTROLLER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the Abstract originally filed with the Substitute Abstract attached hereto.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 8, with the following paragraph:

The object-oriented software function blocks are programmed by the respective programming units 7 (Figure 1) at manufacturing sites 1, 2 or by a programming unit 14 which is likewise connected to the Internet. In addition to operating and monitoring devices 8 and workstations 9, these programming units 8, 14 are parts of the management engineering system. The programming units send these software blocks to the corresponding programmable controllers over the Internet and the respective Internet communications interface. In the event that blocks must be altered, for example, programmable controller 6 or a server 13 first transmits the corresponding software function block over the Internet to one of programming units 7. Finally, programming unit 7 supplements or modifies this block and can